(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (b) No instance of discotheques not filing their I.T. Returns have so far been noticed in this region.

(c) No such information as mentioned in the query is in the possession of the Department till date.

(d) to (e) The Income Tax Department is monitoring non filers, however functioning of discotheques has not been specially monitored for this purpose.

Financial autonomy of CPSEs

2652. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is in process of giving more operational and financial autonomy to Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs);

(b) if so, whether Government is creating a new category called Maharatna which will define level of independence for CPSEs;

(c) whether his Ministry has floated a note in Cabinet for introducing new title within 100 days policy;

(d) if so, whether Ministry has also sought views of other Ministries; and

(e) if so, to what extent this new policy will be helpful for the CPSEs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) to (d) The introduction of "Maharatna" category for Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) has been indentified as one of the items that the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises would like to achieve as part of 100 days policy. The Maharatna scheme envisages delegation of enhanced financial powers to the boards of Maharatna CPSEs as compared to those available to Navratna. The draft Cabinet Note in this regard has been circulated to the concerned Administrative Ministries/Departments for their comments.

(e) The introduction of Maharatna Scheme is expected to help the larger Navratna CPSEs to expand their operations in both domestic as well as global markets.

Cost and time overrun of projects

2653. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) how many projects of rupees 50 crores and above of the Public Sector Undertakings under his Ministry are affected by cost or time overrun, PSU-wise;

(b) what are the reasons for cost and time overrun of these projects; and

(c) what are the efforts made by his Ministry/PSU to protect the projects from cost overrun?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) to (c) 3 Projects one each of Cement Corporation of India Ltd., Hindustan Newsprint Ltd. and Nagaland Pulp's and Paper Company Ltd. are affected by cost or time overrun. The details are given in the enclosed Statement.